Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 L-03 AGRE-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-03 OMB-01 /057 W

-----055797 260236Z /75

R 251627Z AUG 77 FM USMISSION GENEVA TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 598 AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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SEOUL FOR TEXTILE NEGOTIATING TEAM

E O 11652: NA TAGS: ETRD, JA

SUBJ: MFA RENEWAL - TALKS WITH JAPANESE

- 1. IN DISCUSSIONS WITH JAPANESE MISSION (ABE) HERE, WE HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT IN ADDITION TO DISCUSSIONS ON MFA RENEWAL, SMITH SHOULD EXPECT TO BE ASKED ABOUT U.S. POSITION ON TEXTILE TARIFFS IN THE MTN WHEN HE VISITS TOKYO NEXT WEEK.
- 2. AS FAR AS MFA RENEWAL IS CONCERNED, THERE IS OBVIOUSLY STILL DISAGREEMENT WITHIN GOJ ON WHETHER OR NOT COM.TEX/W/44 MODIFIES MFA, AND HENCE WHETHER OR NOT GOJ CAN GO ALONG WITH IT. ABE URGED THAT SMITH STRONGLY EMPHASIZE IN TOKYO HOW FAR EC MOVED FROM ITS ORIGINAL POSITION IN JULY TALKS, AND THAT WHAT THEY FINALLY ENDED UP WITH IS NO MORE THAN CONFIRMATION OF PAST PRACTICE. JAPANESE ARE CONCERNED THAT ANY A PRIORI PERMISSION GIVEN TO EC TO TAKE SPECIAL RESTRICTIVE TRADE MEASURES UNDER MFA MIGHT SET BAD PRECEDENT FOR MTN SAFEGUARDS DISCUSSIONS, AND THEY NEED TO BE CONVINCED THAT THIS WOULD NOT HAPPEN. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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3. THERE ARE OBVIOUSLY STILL SOME LEGAL QUESTIONS IN THE MINDS OF THE JAPANESE TREATY OFFICE, AND ABE SAID THAT THE GOJ WOULD PROBABLY ASK THAT W/44 NOT REPEAT NOT BE DERESTRICTED. IF IT REMAINS RESTRICTED, THEY WOULD NOT HAVE TO SHOW IT TO THE DIET.

4. ABE ALSO EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THE EC WILL BE SUCCESSFUL IN ITS BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS, AND THAT BY DECEMBER IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO RECONVENE TC AND SIMPLY RENEW MFA WITHOUT CHANGE. SUCH A RESULT WOULD, AT ONCE, SOLVE ALL JAPANESE PROBLEMS WITH W/44.VANDEN HEUVEL

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NNN

Message Attributes

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